Women workers engaged in Fish Processing Industry

2433. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to make any study regarding the problem of women engaged in fish processing industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) to (c) An Inter-Ministerial Task Force was constituted to study the living and working conditions of the Workers in the Fish Processing Industry. The recommendations *inter-alia* include effective implementation of the provisions of the Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act, 1979, the Factories Act, 1948, medical and provident fund facilities under the relevant Acts, payment of minimum wages, over-time allowance, setting up of a Welfare Fund and certain welfare measures for women workers. The recommendations of the Task Force have been sent to the concerned Ministries/Departments and State Governments for taking appropriate action.

Pending Industrial Disputes

† 2434. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of disputes pending before the Government industrial tribunals and labour courts established under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, situated at New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata;

(b) the time taken generally for disposal of industrial disputes; and

(c) whether Government are contemplating to increase the number of presiding officers in Central Government industrial tribunals and labour courts in metropolitan cities of the country in view of the number of pending industrial disputes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) A statement is enclosed. (*See* below)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) The Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts are quasi-judicial bodies and the Ministry does not normally interfere in their functioning. However, it has, from time to time, impressed upon the Presiding Officers the need to reduce the pendency in the disposal of cases. It has also made a specific provision in the Industrial Disputes Act by an amendment in 1982 so as to provide that the cases relating to individual workmen should be disposed of within a period not exceeding 3 months. Cases, however, take a longer time for disposal as the parties seek repeated adjournments or obtain a stay from the Higher Courts of Law.

At present there is no proposal to increase the number of Presiding Officers. However, approval has been received for setting up of 5 new Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts one each at Delhi, Chandigarh, Ahmedabad, Guwahati and Ernakulam.

Statement

No. of Cases Pending in CGITs situated in New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata as on 31-5-2002

Sl. No.	Name of the CGITs	Cases Pending	Remarks
1.	Mumbai No. 1	197	=542
2.	Mumbai No. 2	345	
3.	New Delhi	1134	
4.	Kolkata	178	
5.	Chennai	436	

Functioning of ESI Hospitals

2435. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the working of ESI hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the functioning is found to be satisfactory;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;